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**From:** EPAResearchCompass [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=C1E8F11508674C3C954553A1129D33E5-EPARESEARCH]  
**Sent:** 1/9/2018 3:26:18 PM  
**To:** ORD-ALL Feds and NonFeds and RSLs [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=2c735272eef941588aefd9a05ed28823-ORD-ALL Feds and NonFeds and RSLs]  
**CC:** Lincoln, Larry [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=8248d03a1441414db7754db201ebec45-Lincoln, Larry]; Barnett, Felicia [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=5773b45cae5142fe950861dd6146f1e9-Barnett, Felicia]; Carter, Bobbi [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=f16dcafe85fc418ebd1651be2e8ab82d-Carter, Bobbi]; Gettle, Jeaneanne [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=d8e72aa7e1894faea44006fd9f22b637-Gettle, Jeaneanne]; Taylor, Dawn [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b984d00ec06544e498ee5d986f97047c-Taylor, Dawn]; Klinger, Adam [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=346d5466632f4967adc7169c8d2ce4fd-Klinger, Adam]; Widener, Charles (Chuck) [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=db4c02702e5a4d25aabff1cf8bfa3e36-Widener, Ch]; Liljegren, Jennifer [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=c7098a838cd34f75b8878571fe95d939-JLiljegr]; Pollard, Solomon [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=16cdf700f8024145847a2770b84abae3-Pollard, Solomon]  
**Subject:** Weekly Compass: January 9, 2018



Weekly Update: 1/9/2018

Welcome to the Weekly Compass, your gateway to information about recent and upcoming ORD activities. If you have ideas for the Weekly Compass, please send them to the editors. To see past issues, visit the Weekly Compass archive on [ORD@work](mailto:ORD@work).

**Weekly Note from Jennifer**

ORDers- This week, I will be meeting with ORD's senior leadership at the EC face-to-face meeting to kick off 2018 and discuss ORD's work plan, which flows from the [Draft FY 2018-2022](#)

EPA Strategic Plan. We will also be talking about lean management systems, and several other topics.

PFAS continues to be of great interest. ORD and others from EPA will be briefing the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works this Thursday. Thank you to everyone who has been working hard on the PFAS efforts across ORD.

I hope you all had a relaxing holiday and that you are recharged and rejuvenated for a productive new year. -Jennifer

## Quick Updates

- Through 1/15, the Partnership for Public Service is accepting nominations for the 2018 Samuel J. Heyman Service to America Medals, a.k.a. the "Sammies".
- Don't forget to check out the open opportunities on Talent Hub!
- You can donate to your favorite charities through CFC and help ORD reach its 2017 goal of \$61,294! Register now and make your contribution online.
- You can read the This Week @ EPA newsletter [here](#).
- Upcoming webinars:
  - Informational Webinar: How to Apply for an EPA P3 Grant: Thursday, January 11, 2-3 pm ET
  - ORD & OAM Strategic Partnership for COR Training, "Independent Government Estimates": Tuesday, January 16, 2:30-4pm ET
  - Webinar on new app for EPA small purchase requests: Wednesday, January 17, 2-3 pm ET
  - Legal Research for Everyone: Wednesday, January 17, 2-2:30 pm ET
  - EPA Tools and Resources Webinar: Urban Background Study: Wednesday, January 17, 3-4 pm ET

## Photos of the Week: Throwback Tuesday, Volume 2

### In the Lab:

#### Early Pregnancy Exposure to Ozone May Cause Smaller Offspring

A new NHEERL study, led by Urmila Kodavanti, provides the first known causal evidence that ozone exposure during early pregnancy may lead to restricted growth in offspring. This novel work used advanced high-resolution Doppler ultrasonic images of vascular blood flow to offer possible explanations for associations between exposure to air pollutants during pregnancy and adverse outcomes. Results show that early exposure may cause diminished uterine artery flow during later pregnancy, resulting in fetal growth restriction. These findings will improve the scientific community's broader understanding of the relationship between fetal growth and ozone exposure during gestation, and support continued efforts to characterize the long-term health consequences of such exposures in offspring.

#### Update on Health Effects of Wildland Fire Smoke Exposure

In a timely publication addressing informational needs of state and local public health officials

and clinicians, Wayne Cascio, Acting Director of NHEERL, published an updated review of the human health effects of wildland fire smoke. Wildland fire smoke and human health highlights: the growing contribution of wildfire smoke to impaired air quality, at-risk populations, the attendant adverse health and economic effects of smoke exposure, opportunities for research, and public health actions to decrease exposure and prevent adverse clinical outcomes.

### **Flint Enforcement Team Meeting**

Today, NRMRL's Tom Speth is representing EPA at the Flint National Enforcement Team meeting led by Region 5. At the meeting, progress towards compliance with the January 21, 2016, Safe Drinking Water Act Section 1431 Emergency Order and November 17, 2016, First Amendment will be evaluated. The main topics that are being discussed are enforcement order requirements, current public water system status, and future source water plans.

### **ORD Providing Technical Support to New State Working Group on Lake Habitat**

Lake managers from eight state agencies have established an informal working group to share ideas and strategies for using physical habitat data to inform lake management policies in their states. ORD scientists will provide technical guidance, and act as a catalyst to connect states and tribes that are just starting to use National Aquatic Resource Survey (NARS) data, with states that are veteran users. The workgroup will help states tailor NARS National Lakes Assessment (NARS/NLA) data analysis within the context of types of lakes, human activities, and impacts in their states, and will provide a forum for states to share information about how they connect with lake owner organizations and their state legislatures. NHEERL researchers Tony Olsen and Phil Kaufmann will use data from the NARS/NLA surveys to help examine the effectiveness of various current state laws in protecting nearshore lake habitat. States currently committed to this cooperative federalism project are Vermont, New Hampshire, Maine, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Illinois, Texas, and Washington.

### **Providing Support to Region 8 on Non-refined Petroleum Waste**

The North Dakota Department of Health's Water Quality Division has requested technical information on risk-based approaches for site remediation (e.g., soil screening levels and ASTM methodologies) involving non-refined petroleum waste releases on land. The information will be used in a technical workshop hosted by the state in late January in Bismarck, ND, which will include various stakeholders such as government agencies, industry, and individual landowners. NRMRL's Ed Barth and Jim Weaver are working with OLEM and NCEA to provide the requested technical information to Region 8, who will coordinate the state.

### **Natural Gas Power Plants and Carbon Capture and Storage**

Samaneh Babaee (ORISE) and NRMRL's Dan Loughlin co-authored a journal article, "Exploring the role of natural gas power plants with carbon capture and storage as a bridge to a low-carbon future," which was published in *Clean Technologies and Environmental Policy* on December 22. Results generated with the MARKAL energy system model suggest that natural gas combined-cycle (NGCC) turbines are an effective way to reduce emissions in the short- to mid-term. A large portion of NGCC capacity is later retrofit with carbon capture and storage, indicating that NGCC can be a bridge to and an integral part of a low-carbon future.

### **Slideshow Features New Monitoring Technology**

What do an electric car, a portable lunchbox-sized monitor and solar-powered air sensors have in common? They are all being used in a year-long study to investigate local air quality in three neighborhoods in Kansas City where residents are exposed to air pollution from highways, railways and industry. A new slideshow provides information about the innovative monitoring technology being used in the study. EPA researchers launched the year-long study in October

which uses stationary and mobile measurement technologies to monitor air quality in the community. Local students are participating in a citizen science project for the study using the AirMapper portable monitor developed by EPA. Researchers conducting the study, named the Kansas City Transportation and Local-Scale Air Quality Study (KC-TRAQS), will share results with residents, students and others interested in the project.

## **TSCA Support**

The CSS team continues to provide support for OPPT for the successful implementation of the revised TSCA with ongoing activities on: the development of the alternative toxicity testing strategy document, informing options for chemical prioritization, and the continued improvement of databases, tools, and approaches used to estimate chemical exposure.

## **NRMRL Scientists Publish Life Cycle Assessment Article**

A journal article, which was authored by members of NRMRL's Rapid Life Cycle Inventory Team: Vinit K. Mittal (ORISE) Sidney C. Bailin (Knowledge Evolution) Michael A. Gonzalez, David E. Meyer, William M. Barrett, and Raymond L. Smith, has just been published. The article "Toward Automated Inventory Modeling in Life Cycle Assessment: The Utility of Semantic Data Modeling to Predict Real-World Chemical Production" was published in the American Chemical Society's *Sustainable Chemistry and Engineering Journal*. This article presents a methodology toward automated inventory modeling of chemical manufacturing in life cycle assessment by developing lineages for chemicals and processes used in the production of a chemical. Once the lineages are established, inventory modeling based on both data mining (top-down) and simulation (bottom-up) approaches can be obtained. The ability to generate a cradle-to-gate life cycle for a chemical represents a key achievement toward the ultimate goal of automated life cycle inventory modeling with application to supporting chemical evaluation and alternative assessment.

## **Oil Spill Book Chapter Features ORD Research**

NRMRL's Marc Mills' research on passive sampler usage to determine the source of dissolved polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) was published as chapter in the book *Oil Spill Environmental Forensics Case Studies*. Researchers used the Ottawa River in Toledo, OH to test the effectiveness of passive samplers in not only measuring pollutant concentrations and bioavailability, but also to determine the source(s) of contamination. This was done by deploying passive samplers over an extended period of time. This innovation has the potential to better target remediation and enforcement actions.

## **Soil and Dust Research Featured**

The Environmental Defense Fund (EDF) has featured multimedia lead exposure modeling done by ORD scientists in a series of blog posts . The latest posting, dated December 15, uses the estimates of how lead exposure sources vary with early childhood age (published by ORD last year in EHP) to argue that soil and dust are critical sources of lead exposure risk in early childhood. These estimates may be important as EPA prepares a response to a court-ordered 90-day deadline to update the Agency's 17-year-old standard for lead contamination in soil and dust.

## **Grantee Publication on Air Pollution and Interstitial Lung Disease**

Exposure to nitrogen oxides was associated with Interstitial Lung Disease (ILD) in a study on older adults' part of the MESA Air project at the University of Washington. ILD is a group of chronic lung diseases characterized by pulmonary inflammation and fibrosis, affecting about 0.5% of older adults, and generally diagnosed late in the disease development. Taking advantage of the CT scans performed on 5495 older adults in the MESA Air cohort, investigators were able to observe early stages of the disease before symptoms were apparent, and related them to exposures to air pollutants. The odds of abnormalities increased by 1.77 times per every

40 ppb increase of nitrogen oxides (NO<sub>x</sub>). Exposure to fine particles (PM<sub>2.5</sub>), NO<sub>x</sub> and NO<sub>2</sub> concentrations showed some association with the progression of attenuation abnormalities, though these varied by ethnicity. The study provides an early indication that air pollution could be a risk factor for ILD, but definitive evidence will require additional analyses.

## **Grantee Publication on Using Plant Tissues**

Researchers at the Wisconsin University's Human Models for Analysis of Pathways (HMAPs) Center have developed methods to maintain the structural complexity of decellularized plant tissues and biofunctionalize them to form three-dimensional scaffolds that can then be primed and seeded with human stem cells. The commercial success of any tissue engineering products requires efficacy, cost effectiveness, and the possibility of scale-up. The HMAP research team has shown that it is feasible to use plant tissues as an alternative feedstock of microphysiological scaffolds for mammalian cells.

## **OSP Support**

- On January 4, Regina Poeske (Region 3 RSL), along with the Region 3 Administrator and RS&T Director, met with the Director of the Region 3 Lab in Fort Meade, MD, to discuss lab capabilities and opportunities for state engagement.
- On January 2, OSP's Diana Cutt provided technical support for an area of concern at the Atlantic Fleet Weapons Training Area Superfund Site in Vieques, PR, a former Naval facility where munitions were fired and stored. Diana reviewed the site's Remedial Action Work Plan Addendum that proposes using in-situ chemical oxidation treatment to address groundwater contamination. This site is one of Puerto Rico's highest priority cleanup concerns.

## **Technical Support on Clean Water Act's Final Biennial Effluent Guidelines**

Today, OSP will represent ORD at the Final Agency Review meeting held by OW. The Clean Water Act requires EPA to publish a biennial effluent guidelines plan, including identification of any effluent limitation guidelines rulemakings and their associated schedules. The purpose of this meeting is to get approval to publish the final plan. ORD anticipates concurring without comment.

## **Groundwater Co-contaminant Behavior of Arsenic and Selenium**

NRMRL's Richard Wilkin, Tony Lee and Doug Beak, and Region 8's Betsy Burns have co-authored a paper, "Groundwater co-contaminant behavior of arsenic and selenium at a lead and zinc smelting facility," which was published in *Applied Geochemistry*. This article summarizes research undertaken to evaluate the geochemical relationship between the behaviors of arsenic and selenium in groundwater plumes. The work provides quantitative analysis of case study data from a former lead and zinc smelting facility in Region 8. The study informs risk management considerations for restoring contaminated groundwater.

## **PFAS Concentrations Data Discussion**

Yesterday, NERL's Valerie Zartarian led an internal teleconference discussion among scientists in ORD and EPA program and regional offices. The discussion focused on available data and a potential approach for multimedia modeling to help estimate the relative contributions of human exposure pathways for priority PFAS chemicals and sources.

## **Webinar on the National Stormwater Calculator Has Record Registration**

Over 1,700 people are registered for the January 31 webinar from 2:00-3:00 pm ET. Jason Bernagros will provide both potential and example applications, along with presenting the new

cost module and mobile web application version designed for desktops and mobile devices, such as smartphones and tablets. [Register Here](#).

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## **In the Office:**

### **CFC Ends This Week**

It's the last week to donate to your favorite charities through CFC! Register here and make your contribution by Friday, January 12<sup>th</sup>.

### **Enter your FY18 First Quarter Data into TechTracker by Friday, January 12**

The first quarter for Fiscal Year 2018 (FY18) has ended, and it is time to develop the first quarterly report of [TechTracker](#) data. To ensure that all FY18 First Quarter data is in the system prior to developing the report, we are asking that everyone create any remaining entries for technical support performed during the first quarter (Oct. 1 through Dec. 31, 2017) or add hours to existing entries as necessary for any additional time spent on those tasks in that timeframe. Please have all applicable technical support hours for work entered into [TechTracker](#) by Friday, January 12 COB.

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## **Accolades:**

### **NARS Team Members Highlighted by OW**

Several NHEERL researchers who are part of the National Aquatic Resource Surveys (NARS) team were mentioned in an Office of Water "shout out" for their work on the NARS national meeting with states in Silver Spring, MD, December 5-7. The Conservation Technology Information Center and the NARS team hosted 114 participants over three days. Among the named individuals who developed materials, gave presentations, moderated sessions, and facilitated break-out groups during the meeting were Steve Paulsen, Tony Olsen, Dave Peck, Phil Kaufmann, Amanda Nahlik and Peg Pelletier. In the coming months the NARS team will be applying what was discussed at the meeting and working with partners to prioritize actions for improvements.

### **NHEERL Postdoc Receives SOT Award**

NHEERL postdoctoral fellow Samantha Snow has been selected as the recipient of the 2018 Celebrating Women in Toxicology Award sponsored by the Society of Toxicology's Women in Toxicology Special Interest Group. The award is given on the basis of scientific merit and outstanding demonstration of leadership and service to the scientific/toxicology community. Dr. Snow's abstract, "Bittersweet: Real-Time, Dynamic Changes in Blood Glucose Levels during an Acute Ozone Exposure in Rats," is the product of a successful Stage 1 Pathfinder Innovation Project, which utilizes newly developed radio-telemetry technology to capture real-time quantitative glucose and core body temperature data in freely moving animals prior to, during, and following an environmental exposure.

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## **In the News:**

## **Freshwater Harmful Algal Blooms Grant Awards**

On Thursday, January 4, EPA announced [two grants](#), funded through the Science to Achieve Results (STAR) program, for innovative research on the prediction, prevention, control, and mitigation of freshwater harmful algal blooms (HABs). [Ohio State University](#) and [Iowa State University](#) are conducting research to better understand the effects from less-common, less studied, and emerging freshwater HAB species and toxins.

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## **In the Community:**

### **EPA-RTP STEM Outreach Program**

Yesterday and today, EPA-RTP's Community Engagement and STEM Education Program judged Junior Engineering projects at the Engineering Academy at Middle Creek High School in Raleigh.

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## **Photos of the Week: Throwback Tuesday, Volume 2**

While moving offices in DC, back issues of the ORD Times from 1979-1980 were discovered! See below for the [second](#) in a series of ORD newsletters that came long before the Weekly Compass. You can see the [first](#) one here.

# The New ORD Times

Volume I, No. 2

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 5, 1979

## Research Committees Expanded to Cover Most of ORD Research

By  
Joanne Loring  
Program Coordination Staff

Washington. ORD's pilot studies in planning its 1980 research committees have been successful enough to warrant expansion to a full committee system for ORD-wide planning. Report in 1977, the pilot project investigated the feasibility of planning ORD research programs through committees composed of representatives from ORD, the regulatory program offices, Regional offices, Office of Enforcement and Office of Planning and Management.

A major goal of the pilot project was to develop research plans and strategies that are closely attuned to the research needs of the Agency. Initially, five committees were formed to address: particulate matter, water, air pollution, hazardous materials, and pollution, drinking water, and industrial wastewater.

Committees collected Agency-wide, on-the-spot, cost-benefit approaches indicated that this approach has considerable potential for better integrating ORD's plans with the Agency's regulatory, enforcement, and compliance. In response, ORD has increased the number of committees from five to twelve to cover all but three months of ORD's programs. This expansion aligns the bulk of ORD's programs with the regulatory subjects areas corresponding to the organization and mission of the program office. Four of the five pilot committees have been expanded. The

first, the particulate air pollution committee was expanded to encompass asbestos as well as inhalable particulate pollutants.

The new committees were formed to address asbestos, hazardous air pollutants, radon, municipal wastewater, water quality, solid waste, and toxic testing and assessment. Each of the twelve committees is co-chaired by a senior manager from ORD and a senior manager from each committee's corresponding program office. Membership and active participation on the committees has been sought from the Regulatory Office, Office of Enforcement and Office of Planning and Management.

The first major task of the new committees this summer was to review ORD's FY 1981 Division 1010 planning documents submitted for the next-base budget process. Despite their newness, the committees had significant impact on improving the Division 1010 and on ORD's characterization of those issues. The committees have not turned their attention toward another of their major tasks—the preparation of next-year strategy documents, detailing the "unattended" questions on research needs and the research programs to address those needs. Upon approval by Assistant Administrators these documents will provide the basis for negotiation of future ORD Division 1010. The strategy documents will be revised

annually, with this year's set of documents targeted for completion this winter (November-February). The committees will also be reviewing ORD's ongoing programs and focusing on program output.

The coming year will be a time for fine tuning the committee system and building on that year's experience with it. As part of this effort, it is expected that the committee system will be fully phased into the ORD and Agency planning processes. This means, for example, that strategies will be available for the preparation of Agency planning products and Division 1010 for FY 1982, which will commence next spring. The committee system will allow maximum committee participation in the planning and prioritizing process.

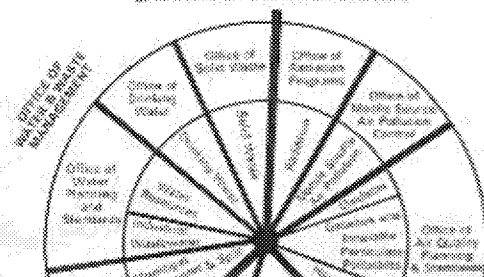
The establishment of the system represents a major change in the way in which ORD plans its efforts. Although the committee system has been in operation for the first a year, considerable progress has been made in bringing ORD's program to focus more closely on the research needs of the rest of the Agency. The coming year promises to strengthen and continue that progress.

## Newly Appointed DAA



Washington—Dr. Vilma R. Hunt, an environmental health scientist, is the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Health Research in the Office of Research and Development, which is located in the Environmental Protection Agency. Dr. Hunt was an Assistant Professor of Environmental Health at Pennsylvania State University, where her

EPA Research Committee Structure





## View from the Hill: Regulatory agencies under attack

By  
Marjorie Flaster  
Office of Legislation

Washington—Recent criticism in the Senate and House of environmentalism as a small concern. The environmental movement movement has received hearings lately, and Guy Smith, Chairman of the President's Council on Environmental Quality, has become so concerned that he has warned the movement that it must recognize its "impact on the view more carefully on the regulation."

The activities of which I refer are: (1) Senate approval of a Budget; (2) EPA's amendment which makes it far easier for users to overturn Federal regulatory decisions; (3) approval by both Houses of Congress of the Tolley Dam; (4) Senate amendments to strip mining bill allowing Senator to disregard Justice Department rules; (5) House Appropriations Subcommittee action on the FUE funding bill for FY 80, which would bar the Agency from spending any money on oil and non-entire cases or on at least two other other trade regulation cases; and (6) House Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee action delaying a White (H.C.C.) amendment which would have made it more difficult for the new Energy Mobilization

Board to overturn environmental safety or health standards.

Now that the Federal regulatory agencies are beginning to implement the steps proposed by Congress (and approximately 80% of EPA's regulations are either court-ordered or congressionally-mandated), these laws are impacting on increasing segments of the population. One issue is rising charges from Congress about "regulatory failure" or "regulatory overload." Several bills which have passed the House of Representatives in the past three years have been intended to require Federal agencies to allow the Congress all data in trade to review regulations. In the face of this onslaught, it is certain to become increasingly difficult to advance the cause of environmental health and safety. Despite the scale of emergency chemical contamination which has plagued many communities in the country.

Why should you care? How does this affect you? It affects you in the moment EPA ignores federal constitutionality in the country, except for perhaps individuals in the academic community or those in the environmental movement. We do have friends on Capitol

Hill who have, thus far, been able to turn the tide to overturn environmental laws, but it is becoming increasingly difficult for them to stand up. Not only do we need to further the good work that OED is doing, but we need more and better scientific data and technical information products which will help our supporters on Capitol Hill to defend our efforts to protect the public's health and the environment. We must not forget to communicate our knowledge and to present our case, and we must act quickly.

In other news from the Hill, the House Science and Technology Committee's Subcommittee on Natural Resources and the Environment will be holding a series of hearings in late October, looking toward February oversight hearings of EPA's R&D authorization for FY 81. The topics for the hearings will be: Acid rain and sulfate, greenhouse, forest, soil, water, urban and suburban, and forest energy resources. During these hearings we will be joined by some of our state senators and will be discussing the coordination of these various programs.

Finally, Dr. Cape will begin a series of country calls on the Hill. In the next month or two, he hopes to be able to give hearings to appropriate Hill staff people to acquire some with the good work OED is doing. He will be talking to various OED's such as: Development of the most interesting research programs. If you have any suggestions for specific topics, please contact your OAS. We need to get the broadest possible input into this very important process.

## ORD Profile: Mike Mastracci Regional Services Staff

By  
Richard M. Linko

Washington—With their headquarters on the sixth floor of EPA's West Tower, the 13-person Regional Services Staff (RSS) at the Potomac District forms one of the key links between ORD's activities and our efforts in the regions. Indicators of this role is the fact that several of the staff members work out of offices in Research Triangle Park, Cincinnati, and Las Vegas. The RSS is part of ORD's Office of Research Program Management.

### What is a regional services staff?

Officially, the RSS is responsible for "coordination and assistance on all matters of mutual interest and responsibility to the Agency's Regional Offices and the ORD." Officially, I think of our RSS as a catalyst for good communication between the ORD Laboratories and the ten Regional Offices. We provide a service whereby the Regions can access the ORD's knowledge and capabilities in a timely manner and whereby the ORD can derive some feedback to feedback to its research programs and policies.

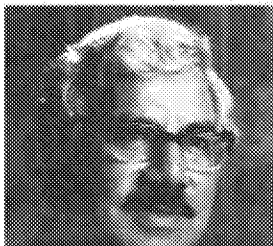
### What are the key functions of the staff?

Effective and positive relationships between the ORD and the Regions can only be obtained by selling concepts, ideas, and the laboratory research and the Regional

commitments. Whenever programs or technical operations provide a service, help, or encourage each other to establish and maintain a wide special relationship across the ten Regions.

Unfortunately, it would not be very productive for 13 laboratories to maintain interaction with 10 non-scientific Regions. Nor would it be efficient to use many Region problems arise, discipline and late publications.

The line of Regional research work is large and dynamic. The RSS provides the major contact function, eliminating redundancy which can be considered and reducing the workload by screening out many suggestions. Probably, the most useful, though sometimes, function is that of providing directory assistance for the Regions so that they can effectively access the ORD's scientific knowledge resources with the ORD.



Regions for and vice. They are assisted by Patricia Emerson, Chief of Research Triangle Park, North Carolina; and Barbara Johnson, senior Region three and four. From Las Vegas, Dick Joseph serves Regions eight and ten and Phil Arbery serves Regions six and seven, with the support of Louise Lippert. Gordon Thomas, one of the RFP office currently runs an Innovative Research Program award and will be working on its plans to develop an air pollution early warning device.

## DAA Appointment

Continued From Page 1

toxicological assessment processes, evaluating health effects of air pollution on children and adolescents, infant mortality in rural and urban settings, and lung function tests in adolescents. Her professional interest is in occupational health, particularly in relation to effects of toxic substances and physical hazards on reproduction, developmental impacts on infant mortality and child health. Dr. Hahn is an active member of several professional and honorary societies such as: Health Physics Society, American Public Health Association, Radiation Research Society and Sigma Xi. She also holds memberships in American Women in Science, Graduate Women in Science, American Association of University Professors, and the Committee of Labor School Women, among others. Through her active

## Winners of Innovative Research Awards

by  
Louise Barron  
Center for Environmental Research  
Information

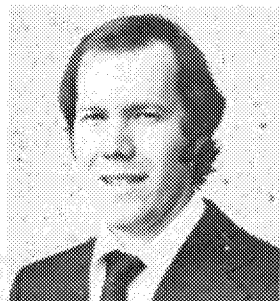
**Continued.**—Four scientists have been chosen as the latest group of recipients of EPA's Innovative Research Awards (IRAs). Michael G. Sawyer, David A. Haffner, Gordon C. Ertman, and Richard J. Callaway were selected from among 13 candidates, six of whose projects related to major EPA research requirements.

The IRA program was established in FY 1978 to give EPA scientists a chance to conduct research and projects which relate to the Agency's long-term goals. IRA scientists are granted a "blanket" so that they can conduct their research based on their own priorities and responsibilities. Each recipient is funded to conduct his or her project independently, and each award includes support for equipment, supplies, and personnel.

The subjects of this year's awards were chosen by a committee of seven experts from government and academic institutions. The committee that on July 9 to determine who would receive the awards. Each proposal had to show that the working project would identify a problem or issue, present, describe a new approach to solving a problem, or enhance the frontiers of knowledge in an environmental science. And each had to illustrate that the results of the investigation would be suitable for publication in the peer-reviewed literature and for presentation before EPA's senior management staff.

The objectives of this year's innovative proposals range from innovative industrial treatment concepts and recycling processes to more sophisticated and intensive methods for determining base pollution within regions of waters.

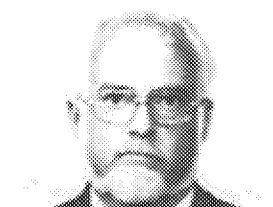
Total funding for this group of awards is approximately \$240,000. Another group of proposals will be undergoing review starting in March 1980. Proposals should be sent to the Director of the Innovative Research Program, John E. Martin, A. Lewis, EPA/IR, 401 M Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20460, 202-755-6410.



Gordon Ertman, with the Headquarters Regional Service Unit located at Research Triangle Park, North Carolina, will work to develop an ozone analyzer which may eventually be used to predict a sound air pollution episode a number of hours before it occurs.



David Haffner of the Environmental Monitoring and Systems Lab in Cincinnati, Ohio, will develop the program to monitor water quality of various locations in relation to a standard and the procedures for that topic.



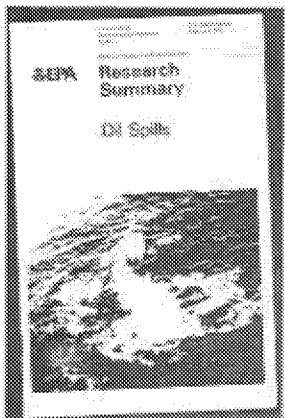
## Research Summaries Launched to Fill Information Gap

by  
Mark Schaefer  
Technical Information Office

**Washington.**—The Research Summary publication series was recently launched to fill a long-standing information void. The EPA has never had a publishing series which routinely disseminates information on research projects in an easily available non-technical format.

One of the most commonly asked questions of our government regarding air is "what are you doing?" The rather simple and somewhat generic question reflects reality in a measure, consisting of a great variety of documents, and references to 2 or 3 technical reports along with the plain matter of someone "who knows a lot more about this than me." Response of this type is frustratingly inadequate. Hence, the development of a new publication series designed both to give the EPA's research program the visibility it deserves, and to meet the needs of the knowledge or program manager who requires a higher profile, currently has been time for information response.

The 19 to 24 page color summary brochure begins with a brief background discussion of the topic or problem area and an outline of the EPA and ORR approach for responding to the problem. The main body of the document is a 10 to 15 page description of the major research projects. ORR has undertaken, towards the end of the summary is a brief listing of the individual research projects underway or in progress with laboratory or field, and a listing of names for individual scientists.



The EPA Research Summary—oil spills.

## Fill Information Gap

Continued from Page 3

Drinking Water, and Sewage Sludge Disposal. Summaries will be available within the next six months. Eventually the Office of Research Program Management (ORPM) plans to cover all the major program areas. According to ORPM Director Sam Roodberg, "The increased visibility ORPM receives in Congress, OMS, the Agency's program offices, and perhaps more importantly, the interested public, say have important payoffs. We're both generating interest in environmental research and indirectly improving the quality of our research program."

## People on the Move...

Washington—In order to provide for better exchange of information between EPA and the academic community and to allow ORPM to assess its progress as opportunities to place their professional personnel within various parts of the Agency, the concept of rotational assignments is being used. Some of ORPM's top management are participating in this program.

The former Deputy Assistant Administrator for Ecological Processes and Effects Research, Thomas A. Murphy, has become the director of ORPM's Corvallis laboratory. Courtney Roodberg will act as DAA until a permanent appointment is made.

A. Paul Alexander is moving to the Office of the Principal Science Advisor for assigned one year assignments to assess the state of knowledge on the problem and other subjects. While he is away, Alfred H. Ellison will direct the activities of the Environmental Sciences Research Laboratory. Albert C. Frakowski, formerly Deputy Assistant Administrator for Monitoring and Technical Support is also moving into the Office of the Principal Science Advisor to serve as ORPM's Principal Engineering Advisor. H. Matthew Bille is acting DAA. Another position in the office, the division director of the Technical Support Division, is being filled by William J. Lary, formerly of the Office of the Principal Science Advisor.

Donald E. Shuman, formerly Director of the Health Environmental Research Laboratory, will forsake the world of management to become a senior research scientist in the laboratory. David J. Venzel, acting director at Toxicity.

In the recently created Office of Health and Environmental Assessment, Elizabeth L. Anderson, executive director of the Carcinogen Assessment Group, has been designated acting director.

In keeping with the need for a continuing dialogue between federal and state scientists, two ORPM laboratory directors have utilized the Intergovernmental Personnel Act to join the academic community on one year assignments. From Gulf Breeze, Thomas W. Drake goes to the University of Texas. Tudor I. Davies is acting laboratory director and at Narragansett, Eric G. Schuster has taken as DAA position at the University of Rhode Island. Daniel K. Phelps is acting.

## NEWS FROM THE LABS

### New Appointment

Research Triangle Park—Dr. Robert G. Lewis has been named Chief of the Analytical Chemistry Branch at the Health Effects Research Laboratory (HERL). He succeeds Dr. Edward Oswald, who recently left EPA to become Chairman of the Environmental Science Department at the University of South Carolina, Columbia.

